

How Does the New Dog and Cat Sterilization Program Work?

- Veterinarians are paid these amounts to reduce the cost of surgeries. They may charge their regular fee, but they are required to give a written list of any charges above the program payments of:
Cat Neuter \$35 Dog Neuter \$55
Cat Spay \$45 Dog Spay \$65
- It is funded by tag sales, the income tax check off, private donations, and grants.
- Educational materials promote the program and spay/neuter as a healthy choice.

Who Supports the Program?

- Ass'n. of County Commissioners of GA
- Georgia Animal Control Association
- Georgia Canine Coalition
- Georgia Department of Agriculture
- Georgia Emergency Management Agency
- Georgia Municipal Association
- Georgia Pet Industry Association
- Georgia Sheriffs' Association
- Georgia Veterinary Medical Association
- Humane Association of Georgia
- Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia

Cat Population Pyramid

Possible reproduction of un-sterilized cats:



Contributions to the Dog and Cat Sterilization Program (DCSP) can be sent to:

DCSP

**19 MLK Jr. Dr., Room 102
Atlanta GA 30334**

Please contact us for more information:

Georgia Department of Agriculture
Dog and Cat Sterilization Program
19 MLK Jr. Dr., Room 102
Atlanta GA 30334
800-282-5852 ext. 3667 or 404-656-3667
<http://agr.georgia.gov>

This brochure is available in pdf format on our website to print and pass along to media, local officials, veterinary clinics, pet stores, friends and neighbors.

Humane Association of Georgia
404-827-0603

Georgia Veterinary Medical Association
www.GVMA.net
678-309-9800

3/15/2013



**Three Plates,
One Purpose,
Saving Lives!**

How Can I Help?

- Buy a Dog & Cat Sterilization License Plate
- Make a tax-deductible contribution
- Ask your employer to match your contribution
- Help educate others about sterilization
- Honor/remember someone with a contribution
- Urge your veterinarian to participate
-



Donate with the State Income Tax Check off:
Dog & Cat Sterilization Fund

Program Accountability

- Money from the sale of tags, income tax check off, donations and grants goes directly to the program
- More than **1,000** veterinarians have performed more than **87,000** spay/neuter procedures throughout Georgia. People and animals in all **159** Georgia counties have benefited from the program.

Why is a Sterilization Program important?

Dog and cat overpopulation is a tragic problem in all areas of Georgia. Each year thousands of healthy, friendly dogs and cats are euthanized in Georgia's animal shelters because people have allowed them to stray and breed. **There are not enough homes for these excess animals.** Sterilization is the solution to dog and cat overpopulation. It reduces:

- number of stray dogs and cats
- dogs and cats housed and killed in shelters
- city/county tax burden for animal control
- destruction to property and livestock
- health risks and bad behavior
- vehicular accidents
- wildlife and habitat destruction
- spread of disease like rabies
- injuries to people and other animals

Dog and Cat Sterilization

Program:



**Three Plates,
One Purpose,
Saving Lives!**

Program Fast Facts

No tax money goes to the program. Purchasing the special license plate is **voluntary**. \$10 from each tag sale and renewal goes directly into the program. **All donations are 100% tax-deductible.**

The State of Georgia annually collects at least **\$60 million** in sales tax on the sale of dog and cat food, yet spends less the **\$1 million** on animal protection.

62 of Georgia's **159** counties do not have animal control. Most Have Minimal animal control.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Can I purchase a dog and cat sterilization license plate at any time during the year?

A: Yes, plates may be purchased **at any time**, by surrendering your current plate to your county tag office. There is \$25 Manufacturing Fee and a \$35 Special Tag Fee. Your county tag office can answer any questions you may have concerning purchase of these tags.

Q: May I buy the plate online?

A: Yes, for more information on online renewal, go to the Department of Revue website:
<https://mvd.dor.ga.gov/tags/index.aspx>

Q: Can my veterinarian participate?

A: Yes, all licensed and accredited veterinarians are eligible.

Q: How difficult is the paperwork?

A: A one-page form is faxed to confirm funds. Approval is usually returned the same day. After surgery, another one-page form to confirm surgery is mailed to the Department, and once a month payment is sent directly to the veterinarian.

Q: May rescue groups use the funds?

A: Absolutely, we encourage them to use it to enable them to do more.

Q: I make a good living and do not qualify for any entitlement programs. Can I still use the program?

A: Yes, any resident of Georgia can use the program. We hope this will encourage citizens to help friends and family and do rescue work.